

Judith Harris
Accessibility Services Coordinator
Mars Hill University
PO Box 6714
Mars Hill, NC 28754
Renfro 309
t 828.689.1410 | f 828.689.1445
judith_harris@mhu.edu



REQUEST FOR INFORMATION Re: Assistance/Emotional Support Animal

Student's Name: _____

Re: Proposed ESA

Name: _____

Type of animal: _____

Age of animal: _____

The above-named student has indicated that you are the (physician, psychiatrist, social worker, medical doctor) who has suggested that having an Assistance/Emotional Support Animal (ESA) in the residence hall will be helpful in alleviating one or more of the identified symptoms or effects of the student's disability and can verify the student's diagnosis. The student is instructed per MHU policy to provide documentation from their established healthcare provider who is licensed to practice within North Carolina or within the student's previous/current state. So that we may better evaluate the request for this accommodation, please answer the following questions:

Information About the Student's Disability

(A person with a disability is defined as someone who has "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.")

What is the nature of the student's diagnosis or mental health impairment (that is, how is the student substantially limited?)

Is there a recommended plan for the student to receive ongoing treatment?

How long have you been working with the student regarding this mental health diagnosis?

Information About the Proposed ESA

Is this an animal that you specifically prescribed as part of treatment for the student, or is it a pet that you believe will have a beneficial effect for the student while in residence on campus?

What symptoms will be reduced by having the ESA?

Describe any evidence that an ESA has helped this student in the past or currently:

Importance of ESA to Student's Well-Being

In your opinion, how important is it for the student's well-being that the ESA be in residence on campus? What consequences, in terms of disability symptomology, may result if the accommodation is not approved?

Have you discussed the responsibilities associated with properly caring for an animal while engaged in typical college activities and residing in campus housing? Do you believe those responsibilities might exacerbate the student's symptoms in any way? (If you have not had this conversation with the student, we will discuss with the student at a later date.)

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form. If we need additional information, we may contact you at a later date. We recognize that having an ESA in the residence hall can be a real benefit for someone with a significant mental health disorder, but the practical limitations of our housing arrangements make it necessary to carefully consider the impact of the request for an ESA on both the student and the campus community.

Please provide contact information, sign and date this questionnaire (below), and return it to **Mars Hill University Disability Services** (contact information is listed in top left corner of letterhead).

Professional Provider Contact information:

Address:

Telephone:

FAX and/or Email address:

Professional Signature:

License #:

Date:

STAMP
